10600 ft. and associated facilities: construction of culvert over the Nallah and strengthening of existing culverts: Trans-installation of Instrument Landing Systems (ILS) and approach lights: installation of additional lights on extended portion of runway and strengthening of existing apron and taxiway to cater to wide bodied Jet Aircraft. It has been proposed to construct a new runway of dimension 10,000 ft. × 150 ft. suitable for operation of Medium Capacity Long Range (MCLR) Category of aircraft at Visakhapatnam airport. There are also proposals for construction of new apron, link taxiways etc., installation of Navigational aids and Ground Lighting Facilities for all weather operation, provision of boundary wall, perimeter road, sub-fire station, approach road etc. and construction of a new integrated terminal building to handle domestic as well as international passengers.

Amendments in Rules Governing Tobacco Board

177. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the rules, regulations etc. pertaining to Tobacco Board in view of prohibition of smoking and sale of bidi, cigarettes and other tobacco products, and

(b) what will be the future role of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Tobacco Act, 1975 and the Tobacco Board Rules, which govern the functioning and role of the Tobacco Board, primarily provide a framework for regulating the production, curing and marketing of FCV tobacco in particular. On the other hand, the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2001 tabled in Parliament by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on March 7, 2001, provides for discouraging the use of tobacco and its products through measures like ban on smoking in public places, restrictions on sale of tobacco products to minors and ban on advertisement of

tobacco products, Since there is no inconsistency between the provisions of the two, there is no call for amending the Tobacco Board Act and Rules or the functions of the Board. The Board will continue to perform its role of monitoring the Virginia tobacco market and establishing a match between demand and supply.

Bilateral Trade between India and Pakistan

178. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that bilateral trade between India and Pakistan had the potential to touch Dollars 5 billion by 2005 from the current Dollars 800 million; and

(b) whether the matter came up for discussion at the Indo-Pak summit held at Agra recently, if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) During 2000-2001, India's exports to Pakistan were estimated at US$ 185.71 million against exports worth US$ 92.95 million in 1999-2000. Respective figures of India's imports from Pakistan were US$ 65.55 million and 68.21 million. Although potential exists to increase the bilateral trade between the two countries, it is not possible to quantify it.

(b) Prime Minister had raised the matter of enhancement of bilateral trade between India and Pakistan in his opening statement at the plenary meeting with President of Pakistan. No agreed document was, however, issued at the end of the Summit talks.

Problems faced by Domestic Oil Industry

179. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news article "Vyapari Sangathan Pamolein Refined Oil Ke Saste Aayat Se Naraj" which appeared in the Navbharat Times, dated the 6th June, 2001;